

# Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

July 2000

Volume 1 Issue 7

## Field Day Report

The Fort Wayne Radio Club's Field Day 200 was a successful weekend for all those participating despite the nearly 3 inches of rain that fell. This year's Field Day was again held at the McMillen Girl Scout Camp on Griffin Road in the northern part of Allen County. Preparations began Friday evening around 23:00UTC with the arrival of the Fort Wayne Radio Club trailer with the generator, tower sections and various wire antennas. Two of the four tents were erected Friday night and the tower sections were laid out in the field.

Saturday morning setup was begun in earnest as members of both Fort Wayne Radio Club and A.C.A.R.T.S. began arriving by 13:00UTC. The remaining two tents were erected, the towers were assembled and erected, power was run, and equipment was put in place in the tents. The operation category was 4A this year with three tents set up for HF and one tent set up for VHF. One HF tent primarily ran CW while the other two HF tents were primarily phone contacts. The VHF tent was set up for 6 Meter SSB, 2 meter SSB, and satellite operation. Computers with TR Log were set up in each tent for logging. Everything was set up and checked out as operational by 17:00UTC.

After a short meeting at 17:45UTC to go over any last minute questions; we were on the air as scheduled at 18:00UTC. We had a lot of traffic through the tents throughout the afternoon. Our visitors included some of the girls camping at the McMillen Center, other area Hams and their family members, some Hams that were new to northeast Indiana, and other curious area residents.

The Hog arrived by middle afternoon and everyone was ready to eat by our scheduled 22:30UTC dinner time. The Hog Roast was well attended with over 50 people purchasing tickets. As the rain began there was standing room only in the Lodge. The Food/Thunderstorm combination shut down operations by 23:00UTC. After nearly three inches of rain, the downpour finally let up by 04:00UTC. We had been off the air for about 5 hours due to the storms! There was water standing everywhere! One HF tent had quite a bit a water flowing past; the VHF tent had a moat around it. The "CW tent" was able to dry out and get back on the air first without having to move to a drier location. One HF station was moved to the Lodge kitchen where it continued on generator power. The other stations were back on the air later as equipment was verified to be dry and operators were available.

Despite being off the air for 5 hours; there were a total of 681 contacts. There were 350 CW contacts and 331 phone contacts.

## What's Inside

Fort Wayne Radio Club News & Meeting Information	pg. 2
Fort Wayne Radio Club Minutes	pg. 3
ACARTS News & Meeting Information	pg. 4
ACARTS Minutes	pg. 5
Field Day Pictures	pg. 6
A Stormy Evening – KB9BNI	pg. 7
Antenna Designer Louis Varney, G5RV, SK	pg. 7
Severe Weather Notes – KB9RH	pg. 8
Regional Hamfests	pg. 8
VE Exam Schedule	pg. 9
For Sale	pg. 10
Buyer Beware – by Don, WB8HQ	pg. 10
Youth Skeds Database	pg. 10
Membership Application	pg. 11

The CW contacts were spread over three bands with 82 contacts on 80 Meters, 201 contacts on 40 Meters, and 67 contacts on 20 Meters. The HF phone contacts were spread over four bands with 70 contacts on 40 Meters, 41 contacts on 20 Meters, 88

Continued on page 3

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN) and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN).

Allen County HamNews is produced on a Macintosh 8500 using Adobe PageMaker.

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, (wb9uza at arrl.net). (You know where the @ sign goes don't you!) Please put "for newsletter" in the Subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

**Deadline is the last Friday of the month.  
Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!**

## Internet Home Pages:

Fort Wayne Radio Club:  
<http://home1.gte.net/n9iww2/fwrc/>  
ACARTS site:  
ACARTS: <http://www.acarts.com>

# HamSplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

**Officers**

**President:**  
Steve Nardin  
WB9ZIY 483-4039  
WB9ZIY@hotmail.com

**Vice President:**  
Tom Baker  
N9TB 747-2714  
kb9tfc@gte.net

**Secretary:**  
Al Burke  
WB9SSE 637-1989  
woffermom@cs.com

**Treasurer:**  
Bob Streeter  
W8ST 672-9737  
RDSatAMSI@aol.com

**Communications Manager:**  
Clint Stedje  
KB9LOF 485-4067

**Board of Directors**

Carole Burke  
WB9RUS 637-1989  
Wb9rus@cs.com

Jim Pliett  
K9OMA 693-9211  
k9oma@netusa1.net

Carl Rittenhouse  
N9NRO 485-4012  
cer@rexnet.net

Mike Stein  
WB9NOO 456-6544  
wb9noo@arrl.net

**President's Corner**

The month of June is now behind us, and what a month it was for ham radio here in Northeast Indiana. In addition to great band conditions, and the June VHF QSO party, we were participants in the Diabetes walk-a-thon, and the biggest weekend in amateur radio, Field Day!

The walk-a-thon for the Diabetes association was a great success. About fifteen of us showed up to man rest stations, walk in the event, and provide communications back to the event organizers. Kudos to all that gave up their Saturday morning to help make this public service operation a really positive showing of Amateur Radio capabilities. I'm not sure when, but at an upcoming meeting, there will be T-shirts for all participants. A good time was had by all while working toward a good cause. All of us have been hurt by the effects of diabetes, either directly or to those we love, and this was one way to fight back.

As for the Field day, I was not able to attend this year. Also in this Ham News is an article written by our Vice President, Tom Baker, who was there for most of the weekend I believe. From all accounts, this was also a successful test of ham radio's ability to survive flooding, and blown circuit breakers and to have fun in the process. All in all, it sounded like a

great weekend, even though I insisted that nobody was to invite Murphy, he came anyway!

Thanks to everyone that helped to make the Field Day and the Hog Roast the event that people will look forward to for most of the year. Your efforts are greatly appreciated, as these fun times build club unity and promote our hobby.

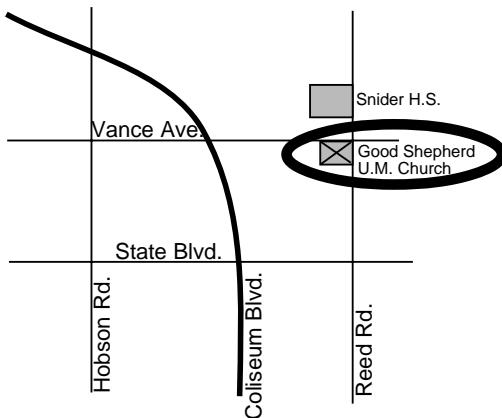
I look forward to this month's club meeting, which will feature a wrap up of our activities last month, and a look forward to future events.

73, Steve, WB9ZIY

**July Meeting**

**Friday, July 21, 2000, 7:30 PM**  
**Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, corner of Vance Ave. & Reed Rd.**

**Program: Activities wrap-up and future planning.**



## FT. WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES 16 JUNE 2000

The June meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held on 16 June 2000 at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, president Steve Nardin hosted the meeting. There were about 19 attendees.

The minutes from the May meeting were read and there were no corrections.

Treasurer Bob Streeter reported that the year-to-date cash flow was positive in the amount of \$1209.77. The club had \$7252.86 in Savings and Checking, and a total assets of \$11608.42 which includes the estimated value of club property. Bob estimated that co-publication of the FWRC and ACARTS newsletters had saved the club \$32.38 so far this year.

Carl Rittenhouse gave a Foxhunt report indicating that he was the fox for the June hunt. He hid out at Omnisource and placed his transmitter near a long chainlink fence. It was observed that evidently some energy was coupled into the fence structure and standing waves were induced in the fence as observed by the (fox) hunters. Thus the participants had fun in the fox hunt and ran a physics experiment at the same time. So far, Carl holds first place in the standings with Jim Pliett close behind in 2nd place. Carl noted that the next foxhunt would commence from the Builder's Square (Lima Rd) parking lot on the 2nd Monday of July starting at 6:30pm.

Steve Nardin announced that the club had acquired two tables for the ACARTS hamfest.

The 50/50 pot came in at \$17.00 and was split between the club and Bob, N9NAI.

Following the close of the business meeting, planning for several upcoming events commenced. Steve Nardin and Clint Stedge noted that the club would provide communications support for the Diabetes Walk-A-Thon scheduled for Saturday, June 17. The club is providing a base station at Headwaters Park, and spotters at the various rest stops along the Walk-A-Thon course. About one dozen FWRC members are participating in the event, and the 146.76 machine is being used for coordination.

Steve Nardin announced that we would have the use of the Lodge at the Girl Scout camp for Field Day, same as last year. Clint Stedge noted that we would run a UHF station, a VHF station, a Six Meter station, a satellite station, and two to three HF stations (including 160 meter capability). Clint also noted that he had identified enough computers for each station site to take care of the log-

ging. Carl Rittenhouse noted that the club generator and trailer were essentially ready to go with the exception of some painting that needs to be accomplished. Carl has acquired a 100 lb. propane tank to replace the existing tank that is no longer serviceable. Carole Burke announced that the pig had been nominated and will show up at the Field Day site ready to eat promptly at 5:30pm Saturday evening. The cost of the meal is set at \$8.50 per head.



Respectfully submitted

Al Burke, WB9SSE Secretary, FWRC



### Field Day Report – Cont'd. from page 1

contacts on 15 Meters, and 61 contacts on 10 Meters. There were 71 VHF SSB phone contacts with 61 contacts on 6 Meters SSB and 10 contacts on 2 meters SSB.

From a points standpoint, with our 100 watt maximum output power we had 2062 points plus a couple of bonus point categories giving the Field Day 2000 crew an unofficial total of 2262 points. The total was an increase over the Fort Wayne Radio Club total in 1998 when the operation category was 2A. The 1999 3A Field Day results were not submitted to the ARRL.

Despite the heavy rains Field Day 2000 was definitely a positive event with at least one new club member added and interest in the area clubs generated in a number of other people. A huge "Thank You!!" to everyone who came out and worked hard and made Field Day 2000 a success. If you didn't make it to Field Day this year make sure you don't miss the fun next year!

Tom Baker / N9TB  
Vice President  
Fort Wayne Radio Club

# STATE OF THE ARTS

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

## ACARTS Officers

**President**  
Vic Berko, KA9LTV  
(219) 747-0938  
vberko@juno.com

**Vice President**  
Dave Lindquist, W9LKH  
(219) 485-6135  
w9lkh@compuserve.com

**Secretary**  
Don Gagnon, WB8HQ5  
(219) 484-3317  
don.gagnon@home.com

**Treasurer**  
Howard Pletcher, N9ADS  
(219) 747-5252  
n9ads@juno.com

## ACARTS Managers

**Activities**  
John Schnieders, N9IYI  
(219) 728-4935 (Decatur)  
jajl@decaturnet.com

**Emergency Preparedness**  
Wayne Bartlett, N9YBM  
(219) 432-7172  
wgbart@aol.com

**Station Manager**  
Doug Jones, N9NNT  
(219) 432-9277  
djones2233@aol.com

**Fundraising Manager**  
Jim Boyer, KB9IH  
(219) 489-6700  
jdbkb9ih@gateway.net

**W9INX Trustee**  
Dave Smith, KA9FFT  
(219) 493-2439

**Tech Committee**  
Emery McClendon, KB9IBW  
(219) 485-4120  
kb9ibw@juno.com

## President's Message



It is July and it is hard to believe that the year is half over already. Another Field Day has come and gone. Despite the weather and being off the air for several hours, the participants were still able to achieve a respectable score.

Recently, several hams had a conversation about the past and future of ham radio. We talked about the changes over the period of time since we first became hams. The ham gear of yesterday was easy to repair, and most hams knew enough to do those repairs themselves. Try to do that with today's ham equipment! With integrated micro circuits and the reduced size of ham gear it is impossible for most hams. Most of today's hams are appliance operators. But, there are also more areas to get involved in than there were a few years ago. So as technology changes, so does the face of ham radio, and the people we try to attract to join our club. We need to appeal to all tastes if we are to survive as a club. We also need to get more people involved in participating at meetings and the direction that we want to see this club go.

This not only applies to the club, but our hobby as well. There are some out there that would love to have the frequencies that we use be turned over to commercial use. If we do not grow our hobby that may happen. Thankfully, there are quite a few in Congress that see the important role that Ham Radio plays in emergencies. They are trying to make sure that does not happen. We need your ideas on what you want to see this club do, and what areas of ham radio you are interested in. Let me or any board member know. Better yet, come to a board or general meeting and tell us in person. Hope to see you soon.

73, Vic KA9LTV

## July ACARTS General Meeting Program

We are working on getting a tour of WANE-TV (Ch. 15) for the July meeting however the details have not been worked out in time to get the details in the newsletter. If we can get the tour for July we will meet at WANE-TV, if not, we will meet at the Turnstone Center. Please listen to the IMO Net for details.

John Schnieders, N9IYI

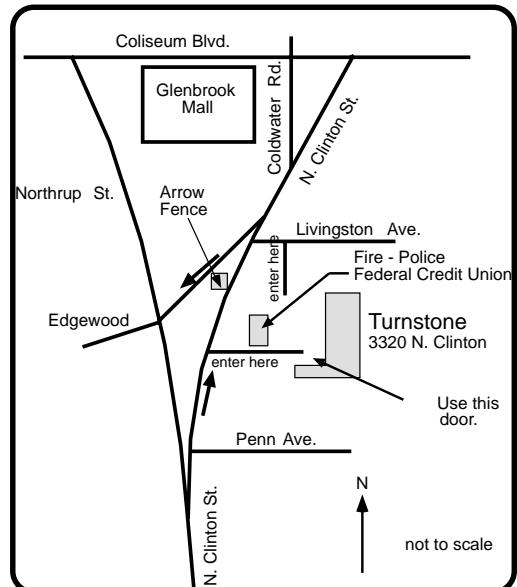
### July Meeting Schedule

All meetings are at 7:30 PM at Turnstone unless otherwise noted.

Board Meeting: Tues. 7/11/00 All members are encouraged to attend.

General meeting: Tues. 7/25/00  
**Program:** TBD – Listen to the IMO Net for details.

Tech Committee: No meeting this month.



## ACARTS June Board Meeting Minutes

The June 13th meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM.

We discussed the plans for Field Day, for which we would be joining the Fort Wayne Radio Club this year. It was noted that an email would go out to all club members with email addresses about a week ahead as a reminder, and asking them to contact Clint if they wanted to sign up for something specific. We also agreed to split the costs of the facilities with FWRC, which was motioned by Don, WB8HQS and seconded by Dave, W9LKH.

We also discussed the bill for the lawyers efforts to date on the county antenna ordinance, and it was motioned and passed to pay it.

Don, WB8HQS made a report on the clubs web site: The web site is moving to a new server, but the change will be transparent to the users. The move will save us more than 50% of the monthly costs, and provide some additional features. Also, in addition to the existing www.acarts.com domain name, it will also be accessible through the domain name www.fortwaynehamfest.com. A temporary new page has been added with local Field Day information, and a new permanent SKYWARN page is being added.

Doug, N9NNT reported on the repeaters. Since 2 of the 3 2M antennas are in bad shape, the only system running properly at the moment is 146.88, which is the priority due to SKYWARN. The power amp has been repaired and it is back to full power output (which is 55 watts. It had been running at 20 watts for more than 6 months). The 147.255 is still down due to a dead antenna and possible cavity issue, and the FWA digipeater is back on the air, but its coverage is less than optimal due to a bad antenna. All new commercial Phelps-Dodge Super Stationmaster antennas (three on 2M, one on 1 1/4M and one on 70 cm) and the associated jumpers are being ordered, and will hopefully be installed by early July. Also the air conditioner died, which may cause heat issues with the power amp, but it should be replaced within a week.

Vic, WB9UZA pleaded for articles for the newsletter (it's a lost cause, Vic!!).

John, N9IYI talked about the June program on Low Earth Orbiting satellites, and said that we would try to reschedule the Solar Power program for July.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM by president Vic, KA9LTV.

Respectfully submitted by Don Gagnon, WB8HQS

## ACARTS June General Meeting Minutes

The June ACARTS General meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM on June 27th by President Vic Berko, KA9LTV. We began with an introduction all around the room, and went right into the program.



The program was on low earth orbiting satellites and how to receive their picture information, and was presented by Joseph Lawrence, KB9RFZ, who is an engineer who works on these and similar satellite instruments at ITT Aerospace here in Fort Wayne. Joseph gave an excellent program covering the satellites themselves, the frequencies they operate on, and the gear needed to copy the infrared and visible images they send down. With a simple homemade antenna, a relatively inexpensive receiver, and some free software, he was able to get some very interesting and informative pictures to show us. The program was very well received with lots of questions.

The business portion of the meeting covered status of the repeaters, a quick review of the Field Day results (which will be published elsewhere in this issue I'm sure) and upcoming events.

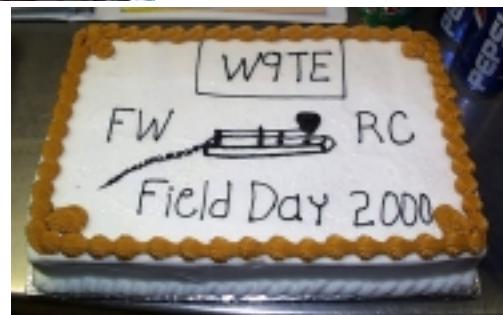
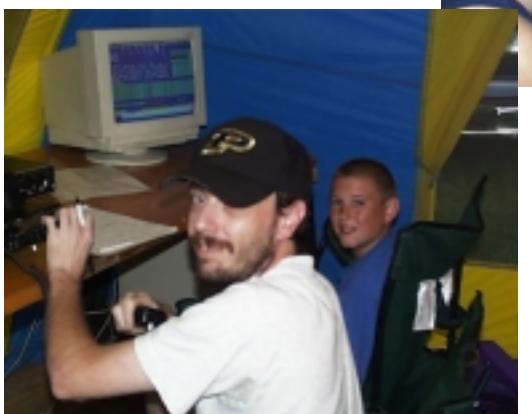
Doug, N9NNT reported that three new 2M and one new 70CM Super Stationmaster antennas have been ordered, along with new jumpers and a time-domain reflectometer (TDR) for antenna system testing. As soon as the antennas arrive we will try to schedule in the tower crew to replace the existing ones. Once this effort is done, the 220 MHz antenna will also be replaced. Doug also noted that the air conditioner at the repeater site has been replaced, which should eliminate the 88 power output drops recently experienced when the repeater has been in constant use for over an hour.

John, N9IYI asked for ideas for the July meeting, since his planned program fell through, and for ideas to increase interest in the August Family Picnic.

Finally Howard, N9ADS mentioned that he needs volunteers for three upcoming events: The Velo Sports Club bike race at the fair grounds on July 9th, the WBNI Bike-a-Thon from Leo High School on August 26th, and the Kids Adventure Day at McMillan Girl Scout Camp on September 9th. Anyone that can help providing communications for any of these events, please contact Howard.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted:  
Don Gagnon, WB8HQS, Secretary.

**Field Day Memories** – Photos by Al Burke

## A Stormy Evening

by John Rufner, KB9BNI

What an evening! June 14, 2000 was another one of those stormy evenings in N.E. Indiana. Midwestern thunderstorms rumbling through the area as predicted by the weather service. And as warned, some of them became severe, even to the point of spawning a tornado. And as usual, the amateurs provided a good and valuable service to the community through the Skywarn program. Good job.....to a point.

Let me make this clear. This is a critique and it is critical of some practices and most particularly of the apparent absence of one very important practice, that of LISTENING.

During the course of the storm a lot of events, storm related, occurred in a very short span of time. And they occurred over a very wide area to varying degrees. Some more severe than others, yet all important to some degree or another. Therein is the source of my concern. During the course of the event it became apparent that there was too little listening taking place. This was especially apparent during the height of the storm. Let me try to explain.

At one point very shortly after the front moved through the center of Fort Wayne proper, causing a lot of damage to property, there were two reports out of DeKalb county of a tornado. At the same time there were several reports of downed trees being made. My concern is that during all of this I heard several requests for the location of the report and I heard several reports which were redundant or which in the context of the situation at that very moment should have been held for later. They were not of time value. At the time that the tornado was reported in DeKalb county there were people taking frequency to report limbs down in an area which had already had a report of trees down. We heard descriptions in detail of the trees that were down. Was this of value? I lost track of the DeKalb County reports. Did they stop? Were they unable to get into the system?

My point is, be disciplined. Listen and then report what we see, in simple terms, where is the report from, and when is the report from. LISTEN before you report. Is there some other event in progress which is more important? If we are listening we can evaluate if the situation which we are viewing has already been reported. If we are listening we will know what net control is asking to be reported. KISS, that old acronym applies. I believe that each report should take probably 10 seconds to make. Yet we heard transmissions of 30 up to 45 seconds during the heat of the event.

Our reports are intended to provide the weather service, and ultimately, the public with information telling what and

where the weather is most severe. It is intended to provide a warning. In order to accomplish this and to provide the best picture of what the weather service is seeing on their radars they ask for our inputs in real time. That is why short, concise and accurate reports are so important. They don't care what type of tree is down, only its size and location. And then they don't care for the information in order to call the city to schedule the removal, they are trying to use the information to interpret what they are seeing on their systems and from other spotters. They want this information in order to provide the best, most meaningful and beneficial warnings to the public in the path of the storm.

**LISTEN before you report. Is there some other event in progress which is more important?**

Folks, the IMO system and SkyWarn provided a valuable service once again. Keep up the good work. I am proud of this service. I am proud that I have the opportunity to participate. But I also think that there is room for improvement. I think the key to the next level of improvement is for us to LISTEN more before we transmit. And then transmit only the most important information, what, what size, and where. And don't transmit redundant information.

KB9BNI John Rufner

---

## Antenna Designer Louis Varney, G5RV, SK

from *The ARRL Letter*

The Amateur Radio world is mourning the loss of R. Louis Varney, G5RV, who invented the world-famous G5RV antenna. Varney died June 28, at his home in West Sussex. He was 89 and had recently been reported in failing health.

The G5RV multiband wire antenna for HF—typically 102 feet on the flattop section—is among the most popular of all antenna designs. Varney first described the G5RV in the November 1966 issue of the RSGB Bulletin. While models fed with coaxial cable have proliferated, Varney's personal recommendation was to use a balanced feed line and a matching network for bands other than 20 meters. (The G5RV dipole is discussed in Chapter 7 of *The ARRL Antenna Book*.) Varney had a full-size and a double-size G5RV, both fed with open-wire feeders, at his own station.

Varney was an RSGB member for 74 years, and he served as life president of the Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society. His wife Nelida is among his survivors. Services were set for July 4 in Brighton, England.—thanks to Bob D'Imperio, N4XAT, and RSGB for this information



## Severe Weather Notes

Wednesday June 14th turned out to be the big event of the year so far for storm spotters as a line of thunderstorms moved through northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio. As in previous severe weather events, the problem was high winds; the northwest side of Fort Wayne was especially hard hit.

At mid-afternoon, the Storm Prediction Center issued a severe thunderstorm watch for northern and central Indiana and western Ohio. Not only did we have one line of severe thunderstorms move through that day...we had two!

The second line caused most of the damage. Spotter reports indicated winds at the gust front were 60+ miles per hour with very heavy rain. Lightning was also a problem as the storms caused power outages that left over 15,000 people without power - mainly in Allen County.

In addition to the problems at the gust front, several funnel clouds were reported, and a tornado did touch down in southern Dekalb County. A reminder that a severe thunderstorm watch can also include tornadoes.

One thing I want to mention in reference to safety: I have asked the Weather Service to give us more position updates whenever there is a high-priority storm. During this event, a tornado warning was issued for Whitley and northern Allen counties because of a thunderstorm that showed very strong rotation. It turned out to be the storm that produced the Dekalb county tornado. There

were spotters in the area and I feel we did not get enough position updates. That request does not apply to every little thunderstorm that comes along, only the high-priority situations because of the possibility of spotters being mobile in the area.

After that night, the weather settled down a bit; the "severe" aspect shifted over to heavy rain and flash flooding. Mother Nature came back to visit us just in time for Field Day weekend: Friday June 23 and Saturday June 24 were episodes of extremely heavy rain - especially the 24th. In addition, no severe weather watch was in effect either of those nights.

Thanks to all the spotters who participated in these events. The radio traffic on June 14th became congested for a time due to the large number of damage reports, and that issue has been discussed by the net controls. We have always left open the option of moving the Allen County portion of the net to another frequency, and/or calling a second net for damage reports when there is a big event. This is now an even better possibility since Fort Wayne Radio Club has given the spotters permission to use the .76 repeater if needed (thanks again, FWRC!). The decision to call an additional net rests with the net control station.

Finally, you might want to read a guest editorial on storm spotting that appears elsewhere in this issue. [see pg. 7]

Good job this month. The Weather Service was grateful.

from Joel KB9RH

## Regional Hamfests

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Phone</u>	<u>URL or E-mail</u>
8 Jul 2000	Indianapolis, IN	317-257-4050	<a href="http://www.indyhamfest.com">http://www.indyhamfest.com</a>
9 Jul 2000	Bowling Green, OH	419-354-1811	<a href="http://www.wcnet.org/cluborgan">http://www.wcnet.org/cluborgan</a>
16 July 2000	Van Wert, OH	419-795-5763	<a href="http://www.bright.net/~barnesrl/w8fy.html">http://www.bright.net/~barnesrl/w8fy.html</a>
22 Jul 2000	Cincinnati, OH	513-541-6935	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/k8sch">http://www.qsl.net/k8sch</a>
5 Aug 2000	Columbus, OH	614-846-7790	<a href="mailto:kb8kpj@cs.com">kb8kpj@cs.com</a>
6 Aug 2000	Angola, IN	219-475-5897	<a href="mailto:sharon.l.brown@gte.net">sharon.l.brown@gte.net</a>
13 Aug 2000	Greentown, IN	765-668-4814	<a href="mailto:ka6nqwnick@netusa1.net">ka6nqwnick@netusa1.net</a>
9 Sep 2000	Spencer, IN	812-829-2140	
17 Sept 2000	Cincinnati, OH		<a href="mailto:n8jp@arrl.net">n8jp@arrl.net</a>
23-24 Sep 2000	Grayslake, IL	708-457-0966	<a href="mailto:mbrost@cin.net">mbrost@cin.net</a>
24 Sep 2000	Cleveland, OH	800-CLE-FEST	<a href="http://www.hac.org">http://www.hac.org</a>
18-19 Nov 2000	Fort Wayne, IN	219-484-1314	<a href="http://www.acarts.com/hfmain.htm">http://www.acarts.com/hfmain.htm</a>

For more complete information go to <<http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm>>.

**VEC Schedule**

**NOTE:** ARRL-VEC to charge for code tests: Starting with the inception of the new FCC Amateur Radio licensing rules on April 15, 2000, the ARRL-VEC will charge a test fee of \$6.65 to take the Element 1 (5 WPM Morse code) test. Until April 15, the 5 WPM Morse code test (Element 1A) and/or the Novice written test (Element 2) are free at ARRL-VEC test sessions.

15-Jul-2000

Sponsor: W5YI-VEC  
Time: Call for time and walk-in info  
Contact: RICHARD H MC GUIRE (517)782-1430  
VEC: W5YI VEC  
Location:  
CALL FOR SITE LOCATION & TIME  
JACKSON, MI 49204

15-Jul-2000

Sponsor: KALAMAZOO ARC  
Time: 09:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: DAVID H WATT (616)345-8892  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: KALAMAZOO COUNTY SHERIFF DEPT 1500  
LAMONT AVE  
KALAMAZOO, MI 49001

16-Jul-2000

Sponsor: VAN WERT VE GROUP  
Time: (No walk-ins)  
Contact: ROBERT E HIGH (419)795-5763  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: CALL FOR INFO  
VAN WERT, OH 45891

18-Jul-2000

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED  
Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: TERRY L MILLER (765)457-2449  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: UAW LOCAL 1166 2761 N 50 EAST RD  
KOKOMO, IN 46902

22-Jul-2000

Sponsor: HANCOCK COUNTY ARC  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: ROBERT W SIMCOX (317)861-9621  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: SHERIFF'S BUILDING  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CENTER 123 E MAIN ST  
GREENFIELD, IN 46140

22-Jul-2000

Sponsor: SUBURBAN ARA  
Time: 09:00AM (No walk-ins)  
Contact: THOMAS L COPELAND (419)826-7401  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: DELTA PUBLIC LIBRARY 402 MAIN ST  
\*PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY\*  
DELTA, OH 43515

27-Jul-2000

Sponsor: HAMILTON COUNTY ARES  
Time: 7:00 PM (No walk-ins)  
Contact: STEVEN P HENKE (317)578-0304

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: CARMEL FIRE STATION #1  
CARMEL MUNICIPAL COMPLEX  
CARMEL, IN 46032

29-Jul-2000

Sponsor: W5YI-VEC — WHITLEY COUNTY ARC  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: HENRY R MACKEY (219)244-7735  
VEC: W5YI VEC  
Location:  
CALL FOR SITE LOCATION  
COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725



29-Jul-2000

Sponsor: CLINTON COUNTY ARC  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: SAMUEL F PAUL (765)659-1720  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: FRANKFORT PUBLIC LIBRARY  
COURTHOUSE SQUARE 208 W CLINTON ST  
FRANKFORT, IN 46041

05-Aug-2000

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: WILLIAM C HALL (219)485-3995  
VEC: W5YI VEC  
Location: ALLEN COUNTY LIBRARY  
GEORGETOWN BRANCH 6600 E STATE BLVD  
COMMUNITY ROOM  
FORT WAYNE, IN 46815

05-Aug-2000

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED  
Time: 09:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: PEGGY COULTER (765)288-0481  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: CIVIL DEFENSE BUILDING  
SW CORNER STATE RD 3 & 100 N  
NEW CASTLE, IN 47362

08-Aug-2000

Sponsor: ANDERSON RC & MADISON CNTY ARC  
Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: EVERETT G RILEY (765)754-7167  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: MADISON COUNTY EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY HEADQUARTERS 727 W 600 N  
OLD SCHOOL BLDG  
ANDERSON/ALEXANDRIA, IN 46001

12-Aug-2000

Sponsor: TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOC  
Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: ROSS H MERGENTHALER (419)693-3023  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: MAUMEE COMMUNITY CENTER 222 CONANT ST  
CORNER OF WAYNE ST  
MAUMEE, OH 43537

13-Aug-2000

Sponsor: W5YI-VEC  
Time: Call for time and walk-in info  
Contact: RICHARD H MC GUIRE (517)782-1430  
VEC: W5YI VEC  
Location:  
CALL FOR SITE LOCATION & TIME  
JACKSON, MI 49204



## For Sale

- Alinco DR-570T/E VHF/UHF dual band mobile xcvr \$250.00
- ICOM IC-02AT 2M FM HT (w/ many accessories) \$170.00
- Kenwood TL922a Linear amp with 10mtrs. \$800.00
- MFJ 1621 Portable Antenna \$40.00
- MFJ 207 HF SWR Analyzer \$45.00
- MFJ 812B 144/220 MHz SWR/Wattmeter \$12.00
- MFJ 921 VHF 144/200 MHz Dual Band Tuner \$30.00
- Pyramid PS-7K 7A Power Supply \$10.00
- Radio Shack Digital Signal Processor \$35.00
- RFC 440 amp...3in 20 out - call for price
- Tempo S-2 220MHz, 1.5 W HT \$70.00

Contact KB9IBW on 146.88, 219-485-4120, or [kb9ibw@yahoo.com](mailto:kb9ibw@yahoo.com) for info on how to contact the seller.

\*\*\*\*\*

- Daiwa LA-2035R 144 MHz linear amplifier w/ GaAs FET preamp. Input: 1-4 W, Output: >30 W. Very good condition with box, data sheet, mounting bracket & cables. Asking \$75.00.
- TPL PA3-1DE 144 MHz FM power amplifier. Input: 8-15 W, Output: 80-120 W. Good condition, with manual. Asking \$85.00.

Contact Vic Guess, WB9UZA, 485-7472, [<wb9uza@arrl.net>](mailto:<wb9uza@arrl.net>)

\*\*\*\*\*

- Kenwood TS-430S HF transceiver. Xmtr finals new by Kenwood in 2/99. Excellent condition. Never run mobile. \$535 or \$575 with Shure 444 desk mike.
- Diamond F23 2-meter vertical antenna. \$60. Excellent condition.

Gary N9IJB @ 219-627-0334 [rrradioman@fwi.com](mailto:rrradioman@fwi.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

- Icom HS-60 Headset (w/ microphone). This is for a "W" or "SR" series H.T. such as the IC-W2A/E. It was purchased in error at a hamfest so it has had very little use. \$15.00. WB9AA, Ron, 747-3816 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** For Sale & Wanted items will be listed for 2 months only unless the ad is resubmitted. If you sell an item the first month, please contact the editor so the item can be removed.

## Buyer Beware - more now than ever

by Don Gagnon, WB8HQS

When I first got started in ham radio, some 30 years ago last month, in any situation where you were thinking about buying a used piece of ham gear, if you asked the seller if it was in good working order, and he said yes, then you could be 99.99% sure it was. As the years have gone by, that percentage has dropped substantially, and those looking to purchase used ham gear need to check it out VERY CAREFULLY before sealing the deal. If you are inexperienced at that type of thing, your best bet is to bring along someone whose technical expertise you trust to help you out.

As a good example, recently I purchased a used dual band FM mobile that seemed to function fine, but I noticed that it had two dual function controls for squelch and volume, and although one felt fine, the other was VERY loose and mechanically wobbled all over the place. When I asked what was wrong with it, I was told that "all of that model had controls that felt that way". I knew better, but since it appeared to electrically function correctly, I figured whatever was wrong mechanically could be fixed, and the price was right, even if I had to fix it.

Well sure enough, when I got it home and took it apart, the plastic housing behind the front panel, that the control mounted to, was busted in about 4 pieces, and some of the mounting tabs for the front panel itself were also busted or cracked. It looked like someone had dropped the radio and it landed on that control. Fortunately with about an hour and half's work, and a good two-part epoxy I was able to fix it, such that you can't really tell it was ever busted, but the fact remains that the seller knew it was busted and didn't tell the truth when asked specifically about it.

I'm not going to name any names, but I just want to repeat my initial statement, BUYER BEWARE and if you are inexperienced, always bring along someone you can trust technically when you go looking at used gear.

Don WB8HQS

---

## Youth Skeds Database

from *The ARRL Letter* – Today's youth represents the future of Amateur Radio! Don't wait for Kids' Day to roll around again! Get the kids on the air anytime. Register your youth group on our Youth Skeds Database at <http://www.arrl.org/ead/youthskeds/>. Everyone will know how to contact your group, and you'll have a directory of youth skeds at your fingertips.

## Membership Application for FWRC - or - ACARTS (check one)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License class: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Unlisted?  Yes

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member?  Yes

### Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 / year
Family membership <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$21.00 / year
Student membership <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 / year

(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.
2. K-12 or full time student

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site?  Yes  No

Both clubs now offer email delivery of this newsletter as a (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. How would you like your newsletter delivered?  by email  by snail mail  download from web site.

Please attach a check (number \_\_\_\_\_) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

Fort Wayne Radio Club  
PO Box 15127  
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

A.C.A.R.T.S.  
PO Box 10342  
Fort Wayne, IN 46851

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send 2 checks to either club.

### ACARTS Voice Repeaters

146.880 (-)	General use / Skywarn priority
147.255 (+)	General use / Autopatch priority
443.800 (+)	General use

(All repeaters have autopatch, but 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

### ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)

144.390 (s)	APRS - wide
145.010 (s)	General use, NETROM (FWA) - wide
223.660 (s)	BBS use ONLY NETROM (FWA220) - wide

### Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice:	146.76 (-)	General use; (2 sec. initial keyup delay)
	146.94 (-)	General use with autopatch
	146.91 (-)	Autopatch only
	444.875 (+)	General use
ATV:	439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control	

### Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

**IMO:** meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. (2330 UTC) on 146.88

### A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12.00 / year
Additional family members <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Student membership <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year

(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

3. unlicensed member
4. 9 digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail

### Area Traffic Nets - Continued

**Auburn:** meets Mon., Tue., Wed., Thur., Fri., & Sat. at 6 p.m. (2300 UTC) on 147.015+

**21 Repeater Group:** meets each Wednesday at 9 p.m. (0200 UTC) on 147.150

### Miscellaneous Nets

**Huntington ARES:** Sat/Tues at 8:00 p.m. (0100 UTC) on 146.685

**Portside:** 3rd Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. (0030 UTC) on 444.300

**Whitley Co./ARES:** Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. (0015 UTC) on 145.270  
(Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

**Whitley Co. Sunday:** Sundays at 7:45 p.m. (0045 UTC) on 444.550  
+ (The 146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been dropped.)

**Sloppy Code Net:** Sundays at 9 p.m. (0200 UTC) on 40M (7.1405 MHz). This CW net's purpose is to build confidence and help increase code speed. The speed is generally 1-10 WPM. If you want to copy only contact Henry, KA9ZNN at 749-8968 for details..

**Six Meter AM net (informal):** Every Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. on 50.580 MHz . Intercom on 146.430 simplex.